

the world. Tread frequently the mount of prayer. Love the courts of God's house. Visit the sick and suffering. Go where Christ would go. Let His love constrain you to live not for yourself, for the world's praise, or making money, for pleasure and self-indulgence, but for Him who died for you.

"I gave Myself for thee; give thou thyself to Me."

—Rev. George Everard, M.A.

THE MINISTER'S SABBATH NIGHT.

REST him, O Father! Thou didst send him forth
With great and gracious messages of love;
But Thy ambassador is weary now,
Worn with the weight of his high embassy.
Now care for him as Thou hast cared for us
In sending him, and cause him to lie down
In Thy fresh pastures, by Thy streams of peace.
Let Thy left hand be now beneath his head,
And Thine upholding right encircle him,
And, underneath, the Everlasting Arms
Be felt in full support. So let him rest,
Hushed like a little child, without one care;
And so give Thy beloved sleep to-night.

Rest him, dear Master! He hath poured for us
The wine of joy, and we have been refreshed.
Now fill his chalice, give him sweet new draughts
Of life and love, with Thine own hand; be thou
His ministrant to-night; draw very near
In all Thy tenderness and all Thy power.
O speak to him! Thou knowest how to speak
A word in season to Thy weary ones,
And he is weary now. Thou lovest him—
Let Thy disciple lean upon Thy breast,
And, leaning, gain new strength to "rise and shine."

Rest him, O loving Spirit! Let Thy calm
Fall on his soul to-night. O holy Dove,
Spread Thy bright wing above him, let him rest
Beneath its shadow; let him know afresh
The infinite truth and might of Thy dear name—
"Our Comforter!" As gentlest touch will stay
The strong vibrations of a jarring chord,
So lay Thy hand upon his heart and still
Each overstraining throb, each pulsing pain,
Then, in the stillness, breathe upon the strings,
And let Thy holy music overflow
With soothing power his listening, resting soul.

—Frances Ridley Havergal.

TEMPTATION.

THE man who deliberately goes where he knows he will be tempted, unless he has a call of God to go there, virtually makes an appointment with the devil. The Arabs have a proverb: "To think about vice is vicious." There is a great deal said in the newspapers about the fool who blows in the muzzle of a loaded gun, or attempts to light a fire with a kerosene oil can, but neither of these is to be compared in folly with the young man who makes and keeps an appointment with wild and dissolute companions, whom he knows will go to places, and deal with forms of sin, which he has always been taught to shun as he

would a reptile. He cannot even plead the excuse of the man who thought the gun was not loaded. Everybody knows that intoxicating drinks are loaded. Every sensible person knows that bad company is loaded. Yet there are hundreds of boys who have been taught from their youth up that the billiard saloon is loaded, that the knot of street-corner loafers and the village owl gang are loaded, that the novel which they read under their desk at school is loaded, and that the cigar and pipe and barrel of hard cider are loaded; yet they persist in blowing down the muzzle of the gun.—*Union Signal*.

GIVE THEM WORK.

THE estimate of the number of boys lost to Sunday-school in the United States from the ages of twelve to twenty-one varies in percentage in different Sunday-schools. There is loss in nearly all schools, and the saddest side of the thought is that many of the best boys are lost. Vigorous boys, boys of capacity, are lured by the temptations of life, and are lost to Christ, and in many cases to the country. Give them a work to do that makes them manly, and develops the body as well as the mind. The captain of forty boys will be less likely to be seen in a saloon than the boy who has no ties. Their is strength in unity. If the Boys' Brigade can lessen the percentage of loss, it is the movement we need to-day. Many pastors and superintendents say that it does lessen the percentage of loss. It is worth trying.—*Boys' Brigade Courier*.

WHY AM I NOT A CHRISTIAN?

(1) Is it because I am afraid of ridicule?

"Whosoever shall be ashamed of me, and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed."—Luke ix. 26.

(2) Is it because of the inconsistencies of professing Christians?

"Every one of us shall give an account of himself to God."—Romans xiv. 12.

(3) Am I not willing to give up all to Christ?

"What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"—Mark viii. 36.

(4) Am I afraid that I shall not be accepted?

"Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."—John vi. 37.

(5) Is it for fear I am too great a sinner?

"The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."—I. John i. 7.

(6) Is it because I fear I shall not "hold out"?

"He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."—Phil. i. 6.

(7) Am I thinking that I will do as well as I can, and that God ought to be satisfied with that?

"Whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all."—James ii. 10.

(8) Is it because I am postponing the matter, without any definite reason?

"Boast not thyself of to-morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."—Prov. xxvii. 1.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY.

THE bishop of Cork told of a tombstone in a London cemetery which bears these words: "In memory of Frank —, aged twelve years. If I live to be a man, I should like to be a missionary; but if I die as a little boy, put this on my tombstone, that others, seeing it, may go instead of me." Will none, he added, go in answer to this little fellow's wish? And without doubt the loving thought of that childish heart has been the means of making some face seriously the great question whether God does not call them to missionary work.

But while a few are thus willing to undertake more than they can carry through, a timid fear keeps others from accepting any responsibility. We will say, for example, a young lawyer is really desirous of doing some Christian work, but his professional duties are such that he thinks he cannot accept any further responsibility. He would like to take a class in the Sunday-school; but really, he says, the responsibility is too great. He might not be able to get there regularly, and might not get time to prepare the lesson. So he must not think of it.

Frankly, what is it that he is saying? No one ever heard of his being unwilling to accept the responsibility for new clients' affairs in business, provided that they could pay for the work. He is quite sure that he can get time and opportunity to do all this. That is, he can undertake for a client who will pay in gold what he will not undertake for God, who will repay in a coin that satisfies the spirit as gold cannot satisfy it. Let every young man or woman who is doubting about embarking in Christian work now remember that the only polish that will keep the Christian bright is some effort to bring blessing into the lives of others.

And in whatever we do, he who loves much will accomplish much. The preacher